1UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/810
20 October 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 19 OCTOBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to inform you that between 1 and 15 October 1997 United States aircraft continued to violate Iraq's airspace for the purposes of surveillance and provocation. Details appear in the annex.

I request you to intervene with the State concerned with a view to bringing a halt to such actions, which encroach on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

Such operations terrorize the civilian population and damage public and private property. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to request compensation for the harm which it and its people have suffered as a result of the actions described above.

I should be obliged if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-27958 (E) 201097 201097

/...

ANNEX

Details of violations between 1 and 15 October 1997

1. Northern region: 100 sorties flown at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres and at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour. Iraqi towns and villages overflown: Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Agrah, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah, Baibo and the Iraq-Turkey-Iran triangle.

2. Southern region: 1,470 sorties flown at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres and at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour. Iraqi towns and villages overflown: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Jabayesh, Artawi, Rifa'i, Bassiya, Chanafiya, Qurnah, Lassaf, Rumaythah, Hamzah, Diwaniyah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Hulaybah, Shatrah, Achbijah, Abu Sukhayr, Salman, Ukhayder, Aziziyah, Qal'ar Sukkar, Amghar, Hayy, Karbalah, Hallah, Mussib, Makr al-No'am, Maymunah, Ubayyid, Habbariyah, Taqtaqanah, Ar'ar, Afak, Nukayb, Rahhaliyah, Najaf, Al-Kout and Safwan.

3. A United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace on eight occasions; after flying over the southern region it left in the direction of Kuwait.

4. At 1005 hours on 29 September 1997 two United States helicopters from Kuwait overflew Mina'al-Bakr.

5. At 0820 hours on 30 September 1997 a helicopter took off from the United States frigate Rentz (No. 46) and overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

6. At 1700 hours on 30 September 1997 two United States fighters overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

7. At 1750 hours on 30 September 1997 a helicopter took off from the United States frigate Rentz (No. 46) and overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

8. At 1158 hours on 5 October 1997 two United States fighters overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

9. At 1004 hours on 8 October 1997 two United States fighters carried out manoeuvres above Mina' al-Bakr.